



Brevard County Sheriff's Office
Titusville, Florida

To: Chief Michael J. Lewis
From: Agent Charles LaRoche, Staff Services Unit
Date: August 15, 2016
Re: Internal Investigation 2016-I-003

Exemptions applied: 365.171.(12)(a); 3

I. Summary:

On July 2, 2016, officers from the Rockledge Police Department responded to the clubhouse of the [REDACTED] located at [REDACTED] in reference to an alleged domestic violence incident that had just occurred between husband and wife. The 911 call was placed from the clubhouse by [REDACTED]. When officers arrived, they began an investigation of the allegations that were made by Mrs. Anderson that she was burned with an iron by her husband intentionally. Upon the conclusion of the investigation, Mrs. Anderson was arrested and charged with one count of Battery-Domestic Violence against her husband, Corrections Deputy John Anderson. A Capias Request was sent to the State Attorney's Office for the arrest of Mr. Anderson for one count of Battery-Domestic Violence and one count of Preventing Someone from Calling 911.

Rockledge Police Department officers notified the Brevard County Sheriff's Office of the arrest of Mrs. Anderson and that there will be a Capias request sent for Mr. Anderson's arrest. Chief Lewis authorized an Administrative Investigation be conducted as well as the Administrative Suspension of Mrs. Anderson and placement on Administrative Leave for Mr. Anderson.

II. Possible Policy Violations:

400.00 – General Professional Responsibilities
400.06 – Compliance with Law and Regulations

Concur w/
bindings
SET PLE-TERM
79 8-15-16

III. Summary of Investigation:

On July 2, 2016 several Rockledge Police Department Officers responded to the [REDACTED] clubhouse after [REDACTED] called 911 from that location. Mrs. Anderson stated she had been burned with an iron by her husband, Corrections Deputy John Anderson, and he had not allowed her to utilize any telephones to call 911 and she had to escape via a bedroom window.

In Mrs. Anderson's written statement, she alleged that Mr. Anderson was in the kitchen and preparing to leave the residence and she found a clothing iron in the bedroom. Since the iron was still hot and there were children in the home, she secured the iron and was taking it back to the kitchen pantry where it is normally stored. John was in the kitchen at the time and he was inadvertently burned by the iron while she was walking through. Tarsha alleged that John took the iron from her and then purposely burned her on her upper right arm and stated "You stupid bitch, how do you like that!" Tarsha alleged that John then grabbed her by her face and pushed her into a wall and then onto the floor. She yelled for her step-daughter, John's daughter (10 y.o.a.), to call 911. While John was distracted for a moment, she ran into the bedroom but he followed her. John then forced her onto the bed and would not let her leave the apartment. She yelled for her daughter, who had been sleeping in the next bedroom over. When her daughter (9 y.o.a.) came into the room, Tarsha told her to call 911 but John took her cell phone from her. Tarsha states that she tried to gather her daughter and step-daughter and leave via the front door but John blocked the way and would not let her leave. Tarsha also alleged that during the argument in the bedroom, John pulled his Glock 22 from his duty belt holster and put it to her head and stated "I should just kill you now." Tarsha states she was able to retreat to her daughter's bedroom with her and lock the door where she opened the window and fled to the clubhouse [REDACTED] call 911 from there.

John Anderson provided a sworn, written statement as well. He stated the following in essence: John was preparing to leave the residence when he was in the kitchen looking for a lighter for the fireworks he purchased for the holiday weekend. While in the kitchen, Tarsha came in with a hot iron and burned him on his right arm. He stated when he turned around to take the iron from her, she was inadvertently burned too. He stated that prior to that, he made three attempts to leave with his daughter but Tarsha would not let him go. John then called for his daughter once again and attempted to leave with her and Tarsha told them they were not leaving. John then alleged that Tarsha grabbed him by the neck, causing several scratches on his throat and his necklace to break, she stated then she was going to call the police and ran towards their bedroom. John stated he followed her to the bedroom where she swung a battery charger at him. The first attempt missed and she tried again and hit his knee. John alleged that Tarsha tried to strike him in the face but he grabbed her by the wrists in attempt to restrain her. He did state that he took Tarsha's phone so he could try to calm her down. He stated she went to her daughter's room and climbed out the window but he called out for her and asked her to stop.

According to the case reports generated by the officers that were on-scene, as well as the body worn camera footage captured during the investigation, probable cause was generated to arrest both participants in this case. The officers determined that Tarsha Anderson was the primary aggressor and she was physically arrested and booked into the Brevard County Jail. The Officers determined that due to his involvement and participation with the altercation, charges would be filed with the State Attorney's Office in the form of a Capias Request against John Anderson.

Later that evening, Tarsha Anderson was placed on administrative suspension without pay until further notice. John Anderson was placed on administrative leave with pay.

On July 12, 2016 I served a Notice of Administrative Investigation on both Mrs. and Mr. Anderson. On that same day, Mr. Anderson was also served a temporary injunction by Civil Deputy Brandy Torquato. The injunction hearing was set for 0900 hours July 19, 2016 at the Moore Justice Center in front of the Honorable Judge Dugan.

Injunction Hearing

On July 19, 2016 I attended the injunction hearing in Judge Dugan's courtroom where Mrs. Anderson outlined her concerns. After hearing her testimony as well as Mr. Anderson's, Judge Dugan denied the injunction and the temporary order was dissolved.

IV. Witness:

Patrick Kennedy
Police Sergeant
Rockledge Police Department

On July 26, 2016 I conducted a sworn interview with Sergeant Kennedy. Although I read all the case reports generated by him and his officers, there were a few discrepancies between Mr. and Mrs. Anderson's statements that were not answered in the case reports. The following is a summary of that interview:

Sgt. Kennedy stated he and members of his squad responded to the clubhouse of the [REDACTED] in Rockledge. Kennedy stated he arrived on scene approximately five minutes after the lead officer. He was quickly briefed about the incident that allegedly occurred and then he and other officers went to make contact with Mr. Anderson. In his quick briefing, there was no mention of a firearm being involved in this incident. Kennedy stated it was at least 30 minutes into the investigation before he was notified that Mrs. Anderson informed other officers that there was a handgun involved. Kennedy stated that

normally, a victim or witness will reveal that right away, not as an afterthought. Reading over Mrs. Anderson's statement, it is not till the last sentence where she talks about the firearm but she later stated that Mr. Anderson pulled it out near the middle of this incident. Kennedy stated that when this call for service was being dispatched, there was no mention of any firearms being involved.

Due to the fact that Mrs. Anderson stated Mr. Anderson pulled a Glock 22 from his duty belt during this altercation, I asked Kennedy where the Glock was recovered from. Kennedy stated the Glock was found in Mr. Anderson's vehicle in a Blackhawk holster. He stated Mr. Anderson's vehicle was parked further west of the clubhouse and Mrs. Anderson should have seen him if he tried to swap out the Glock for the other firearm if it was in his vehicle. Kennedy believed that the officer response to the 911 call was too quick for Mr. Anderson to have time to make a swap.

V. Subject Employees:

Tarsha Anderson
Corrections Deputy
Brevard County Jail Complex

On July 2, 2016 I made contact with Corrections Deputy Tarsha Anderson after she had been arrested and booked into the Brevard County Jail. I served her with an "Administrative Suspension" and explained that she was being suspended without pay. I explained all the conditions and what she was not allowed to do upon her release.

On July 12, 2016 I made contact with Mrs. Anderson at her parents' residence and provided her with a "Notice of Administrative Investigation." I explained the allegations and informed her to contact a representative of her choice if she desired to have one with her during her interview. Mrs. Anderson stated she retained a private attorney and will have him present for her interview, which was scheduled for July 14, 2016 at 0800 hours in Staff Services.

On July 14, 2016, Tarsha Anderson arrived at Staff Services, accompanied by her attorney, Mr. Michael Sanders-Randall. Prior to the sworn audio recorded interview, Tarsha was provided with and reviewed the investigative file associated with this investigation. A spot-check of the body worn camera footage was conducted and it was agreed upon by Mrs. Anderson and her attorney that there was not much of evidentiary value due to the poor audio quality of the videos. The following is a summary of the interview:

Mrs. Anderson stated she and John have been in a relationship on and off for the last five years, and married for the last six months. During that five years, they dated for the first two years and broke up, during this time period they lived together. After another year and

a half apart, they started dating again. Since getting back together, they have lived together for approximately the last year.

Mrs. Anderson stated there have been incidents in the past but they never escalated to this magnitude. She stated she has previously had to leave the residence after verbal arguments so that it did not escalate to a physical altercation.

Mrs. Anderson stated that the altercation that occurred on July 2, 2016 started with a verbal disagreement on June 30, 2016 where they had been discussing future career and educational plans. Mrs. Anderson stated they did not see eye-to-eye on some of these plans and were not on speaking terms since that day. She stated Mr. Anderson was trying to rectify some of the statements he made during that disagreement, but she did not wish to speak with him at that point. John had previously made plans to attend a BBQ on Saturday July 2, 2016, but since they were still not getting along, Mrs. Anderson elected not to go with him. Mrs. Anderson stated that John was in the bedroom ironing his clothes, when he finished, he left the hot iron on the floor. When she discovered this, she proceeded to take the iron back to the pantry in the kitchen where it was normally stored.

When Mrs. Anderson walked into the kitchen with the hot iron in hand, Mr. Anderson was still in there looking for the lighter. When she attempted to go around him, Mr. Anderson moved and bumped into the iron accidentally. Mrs. Anderson stated Mr. Anderson said "Ouch, why would you do that"? Mrs. Anderson alleged that she apologized for unintentionally burning Mr. Anderson who then took the iron from her and then burned her intentionally. Mrs. Anderson stated when she had the iron in her hand and Mr. Anderson was burned, it was a complete accident. She believes that when Mr. Anderson burned her, it was intentional. Mrs. Anderson stated she then tried to get away from Mr. Anderson and wanted to call 911 and remove herself from the situation. Mrs. Anderson alleged that Mr. Anderson told her she was not going to call 911 and he was not going to jail. She stated John then took her phone, which was on the arm of the couch at the time, and put it in his pocket.

Mrs. Anderson stated immediately after the incident with the iron, the argument continued in the living room and Mrs. Anderson alleged that Mr. Anderson grabbed her by her face, slammed her into the wall and then onto the floor. She was able to retreat into their shared bedroom. When she got to the bedroom, Mr. Anderson went to the closet and retrieved his Glock 22 from his duty belt holster and allegedly told her "If you call the police, it will ruin my career, and I will kill you. I should kill you now." Mrs. Anderson stated she was then facing the bed and Mr. Anderson pushed her down, face first, onto the bed. She then pleaded with him to get off her so she could call 911. Mrs. Anderson stated her daughter came into their bedroom after hearing all the commotion, when she saw her step-father on top of her mother, she yelled at him to stop hurting her mother. Mrs. Anderson stated she told her daughter to call 911 but Mr. Anderson then got off her and took her phone from her as well. After Mr. Anderson got off Mrs. Anderson, she stated she was able to retreat

to her daughter's bedroom with her where she locked the door and escaped via the bedroom window.

When Mrs. Anderson was asked if drugs or alcohol were a factor in this incident or any prior, she stated they are only social drinkers and alcohol was not in play. She did state that John is prescribed [REDACTED] that he takes for PTSD as needed. Mrs. Anderson was unsure if he had used that medication that day or not.

I asked Mrs. Anderson about any specific instances in the past where Mr. Anderson may have acted inappropriately. She stated there was an incident in May 2016 where they were in a verbal altercation and Mr. Anderson pulled out a firearm, loaded a round in the chamber, and stated he was ready for anyone who would come after him. Mrs. Anderson stated she did not report this incident because he did not point the gun at him or make any specific threats to her or anyone else. Mrs. Anderson stated there was an incident in 2013 where law enforcement was involved but at that time, Mr. Anderson was not employed with Brevard County Sheriff's Office.

Second Interview

Based on questions I had that rose from the injunction hearing as well as Mr. Anderson's interview, I requested Mrs. Anderson respond back to Staff Services on July 20, 2016 for a second interview. The following is a summary of that interview:

Mr. Anderson mentioned in his interview as well as the injunction hearing that Mrs. Anderson had a second cell phone that she had access to during the altercation on July 2, 2016. I asked Mrs. Anderson if she did have an additional iPhone, she stated a few months ago when she left the residence for about two weeks, she did get another phone. After they reconciled, the service of that cell phone was shut off and the phone was packed up in its original case and put away somewhere. Although Mrs. Anderson knows that a phone with no service will still call 911, she did not know where it was. In his interview, and in the injunction hearing, Mr. Anderson stated that the phone Mrs. Anderson regularly uses is his phone because he pays the bill on it, therefore he did not refuse her access to her phone. When asked, Mrs. Anderson stated each of them have their own car payment and vehicle insurance and they are not shared accounts. They both have their own bills they pay but they do have a shared checking account where both their payroll checks are deposited into.

Another point that was conflicting between Mr. and Mrs. Anderson's statement was the location of the iron when she retrieved it from the bedroom. Mrs. Anderson stated it was on the floor in the bedroom in a place where she or either of the children could step on or kick it. Mr. Anderson stated he left it out of reach on top of the headboard where it was not in anyone's way. I asked Mrs. Anderson again where she found it, she kept with her original answer that it was on the floor.

Due to the allegations that Mrs. Anderson made about Mr. Anderson pulling a Glock 22 from his duty belt in the closet, I asked Mrs. Anderson if she was sure it was that weapon and not the Taurus 9mm. She was certain it was the Glock and he did pull it from his duty belt. *This is not consistent with SGT Kennedy's statement of where the Glock was recovered from and his belief is that Mr. Anderson would not have had time to exchange the firearms.*

I questioned Mrs. Anderson about her training and experience with firearms, she stated the only training she has ever received was from her corrections academy and when she qualifies with the Agency. She stated she does not personally own any firearms or have one issued to her from the Agency. She stated she does not go to the BCSO range on open range days and does not frequent any privately owned ranges or any that are open to the public.

In Mr. Anderson's interview he stated he and Mrs. Anderson were in a verbal altercation on July 1, 2016, the day prior to her arrest. During this altercation, Mr. Anderson alleged that Mrs. Anderson slapped him in the face and tried to strike him with her hands. He stated he grabbed ahold of her, restrained her arms in a hugging motion, and began to pray with and for her. Mrs. Anderson stated that incident never happened and that they only talked about the argument from the days prior. Mrs. Anderson stated she did not report any other incidents to law enforcement other than one incident in 2013 because she did not want Mr. Anderson to get into trouble and she wanted to try to fix things herself without outside assistance.

**John Anderson
Corrections Deputy
Brevard County Jail Complex**

On July 2, 2016 I made contact with Corrections Deputy John Anderson and served him with a Memorandum of "Administrative Leave". I explained he was being placed on leave with pay, pending the outcome of the criminal investigation from Rockledge Police Department.

On July 12, 2016 I made contact with Corrections Deputy John Anderson and provided him with a "Notice of Administrative Investigation." I explained the allegations and informed him to contact a representative of his choice if he desired to have one with him during his interview. Mr. Anderson stated he did not currently have representation but was going to call his PBA representative for assistance. Mr. Anderson's interview was scheduled for 1230 on July 14, 2016 in Staff Services.

On July 14, 2016, John Anderson arrived at Staff Services with his attorney, Mr. Robert Berry. Prior to the sworn audio recorded interview, John was provided with and reviewed the investigative file associated with this investigation. A spot-check of the body worn

camera footage was conducted and it was agreed upon by Mr. Anderson and his attorney that there was not much of evidentiary value due to the poor audio quality of the videos. The following is a summary of the interview:

Mr. Anderson stated he and Mrs. Anderson have been in a relationship for approximately 5 years but there was a 19 month split in the middle. Since getting back together, they have lived together as a family and got married in January of 2016. Mr. Anderson stated that in February 2016, he and Mrs. Anderson got into an argument that escalated to a physical altercation after she allegedly attacked him, and struck him with a closed fist. He stated he was able to get away from her and left the residence. He spoke with his mother in law on the phone after leaving the residence, he stated RPD Officers were on scene so he went back to the residence.

Mr. Anderson stated on the days leading up to Mrs. Anderson's arrest, they had been arguing over plans they previously made for her to go back to college. Mr. Anderson stated he was prepared to sign over his G.I. Bill to her so that she could use it for tuition. At the last minute, Mrs. Anderson allegedly changed her mind and now did not want to go to college. Mr. Anderson stated he was upset with her because she changed her mind about their plans. Mrs. Anderson got more and more upset with him and they stopped talking to each other for the rest of that night (June 29, 2016). He stated they continued arguing over the same things for the next several days until Friday, July 1, 2016 when Mr. Anderson alleged that Mrs. Anderson approached him and asked "I bet you want to kick my ass!" Mr. Anderson stated he asked her what she was talking about, at that time, Mr. Anderson alleged that Mrs. Anderson slapped him in the face. Mr. Anderson stated he asked Mrs. Anderson if she felt better and she lurched at him in attempt to strike him again. Mr. Anderson stated he dodged her attempt and grabbed her in a hug in attempt to restrain her from hitting him again. Mr. Anderson stated while holding her, he began to pray out loud with, and for, her. Mr. Anderson stated Mrs. Anderson began crying and stated she did not know what was wrong with her and why she felt and acted that way. Mr. Anderson stated he left her there to go pick up their respective daughters from the other parents and would talk about that incident later. When he returned, the two did not speak with each other for the remainder of the day and Mrs. Anderson slept on the couch for the night.

Mr. Anderson stated the following day (Saturday, July 2, 2016), he woke up early and went to the gym for several hours. When he returned home Mrs. Anderson was still not talking to him. He stated he gathered his daughter's and step-daughter's clothing in order to iron them for the party later that day. When he walked into the kitchen with a measuring cup to fill with water for the iron, Mr. Anderson stated he accidentally brushed up against Mrs. Anderson when walking by. Mr. Anderson stated he was about to say he was sorry when Mrs. Anderson shouted "The fucking word is sorry!" Mr. Anderson stated he did not respond to her and only walked out of the room. He went to the bedroom and continued to iron his clothes when Mrs. Anderson entered the room, picked up the measuring cup with water in it and allegedly threw the water on Mr. Anderson. Mr. Anderson decided that at that time, he needed to leave the residence to prevent further escalation of the argument.

He went to the kitchen to get a lighter for the fireworks he was taking to a party he was going to attend. While Mr. Anderson was looking for the lighter in the kitchen, he felt something hot on the back of his right forearm. He quickly turned around to see Mrs. Anderson standing there with the iron he was previously using. He asked Mrs. Anderson what she was doing, allegedly she looked at him and said "Hmmp." Mr. Anderson stated he tried to take the iron from Mrs. Anderson and she burned him again. During the struggle over the iron, Mr. Anderson accidentally burned Mrs. Anderson on her upper right arm with it. At that time, Mrs. Anderson stated she was going to call police. He attempted to talk her out of it, explaining to her that she was likely going to jail. Mr. Anderson stated he continued packing things for the party he was going to, Mrs. Anderson grabbed him from behind, around his neck. When doing so, she scratched his throat area and broke his necklace.

Mr. Anderson stated his daughter saw these events happen and Mrs. Anderson's daughter came out from her room when she heard all the noise. Mr. Anderson stated they told both girls to go back to their room. Mr. Anderson stated he saw Mrs. Anderson's cell phone on the arm of the couch at that time, he walked over to it and picked it up and put it in his pocket. He stated he did not want her to call 911 because he was afraid that Mrs. Anderson would go to jail if officers investigated what happened. Mr. Anderson stated that at that time, Mrs. Anderson stated she was going to break something and started walking toward the bedroom. Fearing she was going to break his MacBook, he followed her into the bedroom. When he got into the bedroom, he alleged that Mrs. Anderson picked up a portable radio battery charger that is used for their jail radios. He stated she held the cord portion and swung the wall plug portion at him (*Note that this power cord is the type that has the large AC/DC adapter on the end of it, it is depicted in one of the photos taken by RPD laying on the floor in the bedroom*). Mr. Anderson stated Mrs. Anderson's first attempt was swung at his head but missed, the second swing hit him in the knee and he sustained a small cut. Mr. Anderson stated he then grabbed ahold of Mrs. Anderson and held her down on the bed and tried to calm her down. He stated Mrs. Anderson then told him she was going to ruin his career. Mr. Anderson told her that was okay but she needed to think things over before she called 911 and that either of them or both could go to jail from this incident. About that time, Mrs. Anderson's daughter came in the bedroom and Mrs. Anderson told her to call 911, Mr. Anderson took her cell phone from her and allegedly threw it somewhere in the residence. At this time, Mrs. Anderson left the bedroom and went into her daughter's room. Mr. Anderson went into his daughter's room as well in attempt to console her after she witnessed some of the events. While Mr. Anderson was in his daughter's room, he saw Mrs. Anderson walk by the window outside of the apartment. He walked outside and asked her if she was really going to do this (call 911), she continued down the sidewalk toward the clubhouse. Mr. Anderson stated that although he took Mrs. Anderson's cell phone, he told her she could walk to the clubhouse to call for police.

Due to the fact that Mrs. Anderson was eventually able to leave the residence [REDACTED] I asked Mr. Anderson why he deprived her usage of her cell phone and took his step-

daughter's phone too. He stated she had an additional cell phone that she could have used. *It was later determined that the additional cell phone was turned off, had no service, and was packed away.*

Mr. Anderson responded to the allegation that he pulled out a Glock 22 from his duty belt and pointed it at her and made threats to harm Mrs. Anderson. Mr. Anderson stated he always keeps the Glock 22 in his vehicle if he is not travelling to and from work. He keeps it in a holster in the vehicle and transfers it to his duty belt on his work days. He stated his second pistol (Taurus PT 24/7) is kept in the top of the closet and in a holster. There is never a handgun in his duty belt unless he is in his vehicle on a work day. Mr. Anderson stated he never got any gun out during this altercation, either the Glock or the Taurus. I pointed out that he would have had enough time to swap locations of the handguns if he did indeed present the Glock during the altercation, he stated his vehicle was parked further west of the clubhouse and he would have walked past Mrs. Anderson, and any other people in the area to do so. Mr. Anderson stated he did not swap handguns out. Mr. Anderson added that he was busy calling his daughter's mother to come get her immediately after Mrs. Anderson leaving the apartment. After his daughter was picked up, there was already a patrol car in front of the clubhouse.

Mr. Anderson stated that neither drugs nor alcohol were a factor during this altercation. He responded to Mrs. Anderson's allegation of being prescribed [REDACTED] by saying he has not used that medication in several months and he took it for insomnia. Mr. Anderson stated that although he was prescribed the medication, he never notified Human Resources in writing. He stated he told a supervisor he had trouble sleeping but nothing about any medications that were prescribed.

[REDACTED] is an antidepressant medication that is primarily prescribed to persons suffering from depression. Although its primary use is for the treatment of depression, it has been prescribed to patients suffering from insomnia. [REDACTED] carries a warning label that would indicate that it may affect mental functioning. According to BCSO General Order 400.37, this type of medication requires written notification through immediate supervisor to Human Resources for inclusion to the employee's medical file. Mr. Anderson failed to make such notification.

I asked Mr. Anderson about an incident that Mrs. Anderson alleged had occurred in May 2016. Mrs. Anderson stated they were in a verbal altercation and she was going to leave the residence. She alleged that Mr. Anderson then grabbed one of his handguns, "made it hot" (loaded a round in the chamber), and stated he was ready for anyone that came there for him. To the allegation, Mr. Anderson replied that the incident she spoke of never happened. Furthermore, he always has a round in the chamber of his handguns so there would be no need to "make it hot." Mr. Anderson stated there was a heated argument in May 2016 but Mrs. Anderson was the aggressor. He stated he locked himself in a bedroom and she kicked in the door. Mr. Anderson stated he called Mrs. Anderson's father and

explained what was going on and asked him to come get her. *Law Enforcement was not called to this incident.*

VI. Other Investigative Efforts:

On July 7, 2016 I received a copy of the investigative report that was completed by the Rockledge Police Department. Included in the packet was the arrest package for Tarsha Anderson as well as the Capias request for John Anderson, case reports completed by five (5) different officers, written statements provided by Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, copies of the administrative paperwork to include booking paperwork, Legal Rights and Remedies for Domestic Violence Victims sheets, DV worksheets, victim notification forms, property receipts, and investigative cost affidavits. I also received a DVD with body worn camera footage from four of the officers as well as the digital photographs that were taken.

I reviewed all documents, photos, and videos. The case reports were consistent with each other and all read as though Mrs. Anderson burned Mr. Anderson intentionally. He then took the iron from her and burned her back, intentionally. A physical and verbal altercation continued and Mr. Anderson deprived Mrs. Anderson from any and all cell phones in the residence so she could not call 911 after she asked her step-daughter and daughter to do so.

According to the RPD officers, the allegations of firearm involvement in this altercation were not made at the onset of this investigation. It was not until approximately the 40th minute of the Body Worn Camera footage where Mrs. Anderson mentions a firearm to the first responding officers when they read it in her written statement. When officers were made aware of the allegation of firearm involvement, they immediately notified Sergeant Kennedy, who was at the residence with Mr. Anderson. Kennedy stated that because Mrs. Anderson was adamant that Mr. Anderson retrieved his Glock 22 from his duty belt and they found that firearm in his vehicle, Mr. Anderson was not questioned about it during the criminal investigation.

Officers from the Rockledge Police Department took several digital images of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson during this investigation, these photos reflect the following:

- Looking at the images of Mr. Anderson and where he was burned, the injuries appear to be consistent with Mrs. Anderson's statement that she accidentally burned Mr. Anderson when he backed into the iron. This determination is based on the fact that the burns he received are all small (approximately three inches in length or less) straight lines that appear to be minor in nature.
- A small cut/abrasion on Mr. Anderson's knee which is consistent with his assertion that Mrs. Anderson swung an electrical cord at him.
- Small scratches on Mr. Anderson's neck consistent with his assertion that his necklace had been ripped off his neck.

- Looking at the images of Mrs. Anderson and where she was burned, in contrast to Mr. Anderson's burn marks, Mrs. Anderson's burn has the distinctive shape of an iron. Mr. Anderson stated Mrs. Anderson received her burn when he pried the iron from her hands. From the way Mr. Anderson described how he took the iron from Mrs. Anderson, compared to her injury, it does not appear that her burn was accidental. When I met with Mrs. Anderson on July 12, 2016 she was wearing a sleeveless shirt. Her burn mark was healing but still had the distinctive shape that is seen in the photographs.

It should be noted that there is a substantial size difference between the Andersons. Mr. Anderson is approximately 6'2" tall and weighs 220 pounds, Mrs. Anderson is approximately 5'1" and weighs 140 pounds. This is significant because Mr. Anderson has stated that, on more than one occasion, he has physically held his wife so that he could either speak to her or calm her down. With that being said, it is hard to understand how he was unable to take the iron from her possession without causing such a large burn. Or how she was able to prevent him from leaving the residence as he claimed.

During their investigation the officers from the RPD made the determination that Tarsha Anderson was the primary aggressor during this incident. It appears that they came to this conclusion, in part, because John Anderson's 10 yoa daughter supported her father's version of what occurred. A physical arrest was made of Tarsha Anderson and a Capias was filed on John Anderson.

On July 28, 2016 I received notification from the 18th Judicial Court State Attorney's Office that both criminal cases that stemmed from this incident were going to be "No Filed". The following is the narrative in the notifications:

DEFENDANT/JUVENILE: JOHN SHAMAR ANDERSON

*CHARGE(S): TAMPERING WITH A WITNESS, VICTIM OR INFORMANT (F3)
BATTERY - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (M1)*

Assistant State Attorney LINDA C. BARNETT reviewed this case and made a decision to no file this case.

REMARKS: The placement of the visible hot iron imprint on this victim's arm appears to the undersigned to be the result of an intentional burn as opposed to accidental. This victim [REDACTED] stating [REDACTED] that her husband had pinned her down, burned her with an iron, and would not let her leave. However, the alleged victim in this case was arrested and determined to be the predominant aggressor. There is insufficient evidence that the defendant took the phone from the daughter by force, threat, or intimidation to support the charge of tampering by hindering communication to law enforcement. There would be no likelihood of

successfully proving the charge beyond a reasonable doubt based on these facts and circumstances and the fact that the testimony between the parties is conflicting. The victim did file for an injunction for protection against this suspect which was subsequently dismissed at the hearing.

DEFENDANT/JUVENILE: TARSHA MONIQUE ANDERSON

CHARGE(S): BATTERY - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (M1)

Assistant State Attorney KIPP VUGTEVEEN reviewed this case and made a decision to no file this case.

REMARKS:

This was part of a cross-complaint. The parties provided conflicting stories regarding the event. The only known witnesses are the 9 year-old daughter of the defendant and 10 year-old daughter of the alleged victim. It was [REDACTED] that contacted 911. [REDACTED] call from the office of the apartment complex because the alleged victim had taken the telephones to prevent her from doing so. She had asked that the children call, but they were not permitted to. Both parties had injuries. The burn mark on the alleged victim's arm is linear and is consistent with having been caused by the edge of an iron. The defendant's burn is in the shape of the entire bottom of an iron. This would be consistent with having the flat surface of the iron intentionally placed against her arm. With the exception of the laceration to the alleged victim's knee, the other injuries to each person are consistent with a mutual struggle. Both parties agree that the alleged victim followed the defendant to the bedroom where the incident continued. The defendant eventually locked herself in her daughter's bedroom and left the apartment via the window. The alleged victim initially contacted our office to request that no charges be filed. Within hours of being served with a temporary injunction issued on behalf of the defendant, he contacted us again. This time he informed us that he wanted charges filed. Considering all of these facts, we will be unable to prove the charges against the defendant beyond a reasonable doubt.

VII. Summary and Recommendations:

The following is a summary of key points of this investigation:

During the investigation conducted by Rockledge Police Department Officers they determined that they had "probable cause" for the arrest of both John and Tarsha Anderson. They determined that Mrs. Anderson was the primary aggressor and therefore she was arrested. This was based upon testimony from Mr. Anderson's daughter who stated she

watched Mrs. Anderson burn her father intentionally. The officers on scene determined that they would file criminal charges with the State Attorney's Office in the form of a Capias request, listing John Anderson as the suspect. Although the State Attorney's Office ultimately did not file charges against either party, the actions were clearly documented in the case reports that both Mr. and Mrs. Anderson committed criminal actions.

Although there is some dispute about what occurred during the physical confrontation, Mr. Anderson stated he did in fact take the phone belonging to Mrs. Anderson from the couch after she stated she was going to call 911. When Mrs. Anderson attempted to have her daughter call 911, Mr. Anderson took that phone as well. Mrs. Anderson was able to leave the residence via a bedroom window [REDACTED] after Mr. Anderson refused to allow her to do so from the residence.

In the testimony of both Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, this incident was not a one day or one time occurrence between them and they have had issues in the past. They both referenced an incident in May 2016. Mr. Anderson stated he had to barricade himself in a bathroom where Mrs. Anderson kicked in the door after a heated verbal altercation. Mrs. Anderson stated Mr. Anderson threatened violence with a firearm (while it was in his hand) if anyone tried to come to his residence to do anything to him should she call police. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Anderson reported these incidents to law enforcement or their chain of command, even they both stated the other violated the law.

Both parties reported that neither drugs nor alcohol were a factor in this incident. It did come to light during the investigation that Mr. Anderson was previously prescribed a medication that, per policy, he was required to notify Human Resources in writing that he was taking. By his own admission, Mr. Anderson never made that notification.

Based on the results of this investigation I recommend the allegations against **John Anderson** be closed as follows:

Section 400.00, General Professional Responsibilities – “Sustained.”

Section 400.06, Compliance with Law and Regulations– “Sustained.”

Section 400.37, Legal Drugs/ Medications–“Sustained.”

Bases on the results of this investigation I recommend the allegations against **Tarsha Anderson** be closed as follows:

Section 400.00, General Professional Responsibilities – “Sustained.”

Section 400.06, Compliance with Law and Regulations– “Sustained.”

VIII. Enclosures

- A. Authorization Memo for Case Number 2016-I-003
- B. Notice of Administrative Investigation X 2
- C. Administrative Investigative Warning X 2
- D. Administrative Leave Memo for John Anderson
- E. Administrative Suspension Memo for Tarsha Anderson
- F. Arrest Affidavit with Booking Paperwork for Tarsha Anderson
- G. Rockledge Police Department case #2016-00019161 with Capias request
- H. Copy of Petition for Injunction against John Anderson
- I. Order of Dismissal of Temporary Injunction
- J. Filing Decisions from State Attorney's Office X 2
- K. DVD with Body Worn Camera Footage
- L. Drugs.com informational report on [REDACTED]

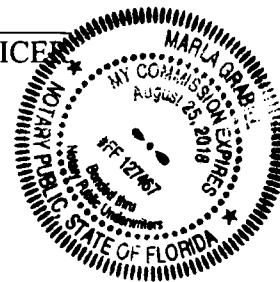
IX. Oath

I, Agent Charles W. LaRoche, do hereby swear, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of my personal knowledge, information, and belief, I have not knowingly or willfully deprived, or allowed another to deprive, the subject of the investigation of any of the rights contained in ss. 112.532 and 112.533, Florida Statutes.

Signed *Charles W. LaRoche #612*
Agent Charles W. LaRoche #612

Sworn to and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority, and this 15th day of August, 2016.

Signature *Marla Grubis*
NOTARY PUBLIC/LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
IN PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTIES

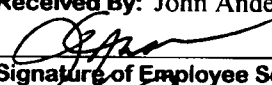
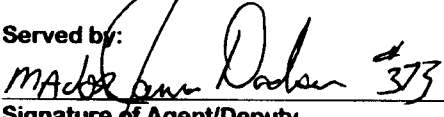




Brevard County Sheriff's Office
Titusville, Florida

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 1, 2016
TO: Corrections Deputy John Anderson
FROM: Chief Michael J. Lewis
RE: Final Action
Administrative Investigation 2016-I-003

A TRUE COPY	
TIME	6:00 P.M.
DATE	9-2-16
BREVARD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	
Received By: John Anderson	
	
Signature of Employee Served	
Served by:	
	
Signature of Agent/Deputy	

Administrative Investigation **2016-I-003** is now closed. The final action regarding this matter is the determination of sustained charges and the application of appropriate corrective action.

After a review of the administrative investigation, and in consideration of your input at your pre-termination hearing on September 1, 2016, I have determined that your actions were in violation of the established policies and standards of the agency. During your hearing you displayed a positive attitude and took full responsibility for your actions. I am confident that this pattern of behavior will not be repeated.

Therefore, based on my review, I am sustaining violations of **400.00 General Professional Responsibilities, 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation, and 400.37 Legal Drugs/ Medications.**

As a corrective action you will receive a **Letter of Reprimand**. You are forewarned that any subsequent violations could lead to progressive discipline up to, and including, termination.

*This memorandum will serve as your **Letter of Reprimand**.*

cc: Major Tomblin
Major Dodson
Human Resource Manager Gillis
Investigative File 2016-I-003



Brevard County Sheriff's Office
Titusville, Florida

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 19, 2016
TO: Corrections Deputy Tarsha Anderson
FROM: Chief Michael J. Lewis *ML*
RE: Final Action
Administrative Investigation 2016-I-003

A TRUE COPY	
TIME	<u>4:30</u> P.M.
DATE	<u>8/19/16</u>
BREVARD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	
Received By:	Tarsha Anderson
	<i>Tarsha Anderson</i>
Signature of Employee Served	
Served by:	Ag. Charles L. Roche
	<i>Charles Roche</i>
Signature of Agent/Deputy	

Administrative Investigation **2016-I-003** is now closed. The final action regarding this matter is the determination of sustained charges and the application of appropriate corrective action.

After a review of the administrative investigation, and in consideration of your input at your pre-termination hearing on August 19, 2016, I have determined that your actions were in violation of the established policies and standards of the agency. During your hearing you displayed a positive attitude and took full responsibility for your actions. I am confident that this pattern of behavior will not be repeated.

Therefore, based on my review, I am sustaining violations of **400.00 General Professional Responsibilities and 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation.**

As a corrective action you will receive a **Letter of Reprimand**. You are forewarned that any subsequent violations could lead to progressive discipline up to, and including, termination.

This memorandum will serve as your Letter of Reprimand.

cc: Major Tomblin
Major Dodson
Human Resource Manager Gillis
Investigative File 2016-I-003